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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1062  
By Rinks

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Ronnie M. Cole for his honorable and astute service to the people of this State as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should pause to specially recognize their fellow legislators who have performed their elected duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion, and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ronnie Cole is one such estimable public servant who, throughout his ten-year tenure in the House of Representatives, has dedicated himself to improving the quality of life for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ronnie Cole's illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 2002 Session of the 102<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Representative Cole has for many years been a prominent figure in the political, social, and civic lives of both Crockett and Dyer counties, and he has served his

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constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, the good people of House District 78 evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Ronnie M. Cole by electing him as their Representative to the General Assembly, a position in which he has performed admirably; and

WHEREAS, presently serving as the Chairman of the Rural West Tennessee Democratic Caucus, Ronnie Cole has also served during his legislative tenure as the Secretary of the House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee and has been a stalwart member of the House Commerce Committee, the House Industrial Impact Subcommittee, the House Budget Subcommittee, the Council on Pensions and Insurance, the Oversight Committee on Workers' Compensation, and the Joint Select Committee on Business Taxes; and

WHEREAS, a tireless proponent of progress, he has championed his constituents' needs, and his meritorious service has helped to perpetuate the superb quality of life that is enjoyed by the good people of his district and indeed, all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Cole truly appreciates the responsibilities as well as the privileges of citizenship; he has served as a member of many community, civic, and professional organizations, and is the past Director of the Dyersburg-Dyer County Chamber of Commerce, the past Chairman of the State Board for Licensing Contractors, and the past President of the Tennessee Asphalt Pavement Association, the Tennessee Road Builders Association, and the Contractors Division of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association; and

WHEREAS, a successful businessman, Chairman Cole earned his degree in Business Administration from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Representative Ronnie Cole is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Jane; together, they are the proud parents of two children, Allison and Brandon, and the loving and devoted grandparents of a granddaughter, Ashley; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Ronnie Cole's announcement of his retirement from the General Assembly has greatly disappointed and disconcerted his fellow lawmakers, Democrats and Republicans alike, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of Crockett and Dyer counties; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Representative Ronnie Cole; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Representative Ronnie M. Cole on ten years of meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of Crockett and Dyer counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend to him our best wishes for much success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Representative Cole as a token of our esteem.